

ARTIFICIAL-LIMB BUSINESS.

The War with Spain Had No Effect—Some Improvements Recently Made.

The only wounded soldier of the late war who has reached New York and been supplied with an artificial leg was a member of the Astor battery, says the New York Commercial Advertiser.

During the civil war 40,000 men were deprived of limbs, and in the recent war only 20, half of whom met with their losses either in camp or on war vessels, not in action.

The manufacture of artificial limbs has been developed rapidly of late; one firm alone in this city has on its books the names of 76,800 persons who have been or are to be supplied with artificial limbs.

The proprietor of one of the largest manufacturing plants in this city said recently: "Wars have very little effect on our business. The railroads are the great destroyers of life and limb, not excepting disease. I find that 100,000 persons are killed or maimed yearly on the railroads of the United States alone, principally employees, a very small percentage being passengers. Up to this time the manufacture of artificial limbs has been considered a local industry, but so great a degree of perfection has been attained that New York manufacturers are shipping to all parts of the world."

Recent improvements are the rubber hand and foot. The ductile fingers are made of Norway iron, the most malleable of metals, which enables the person wearing the hand to have it easily assume any position. The improved foot has a spring mattress embodied in the rubber, which gives it greater elasticity, durability and natural action than those with articulated joints used formerly.

MAKES MAN AND BEAST MAD. French Photographer Says Red Cites Human Beings as Well as Animals.

Why does the bull so strongly object to a red rag? While the professional physiologists do not, as yet, appear to have found any satisfactory explanation of the fact, a French manufacturer of photographic materials professes to have discovered that bulls are by no means the only members of the animal kingdom who are excited by anything red, says the New York Express. A large number of hands are employed in the manufactory, both male and female, and most of the work has hitherto been performed in rooms to which all the light that was admitted came through panes of red glass. Hardly a day passed without some terrific disturbance taking place among the work people. Now it was a duel almost to the death between two of the men, now between two of the women; sometimes the melee was general. "Workshop regulations" were absolutely ignored and no amount of fines or other punishments seemed to have any permanent deterrent effect. This state of affairs was assumed, until recently, to be inseparable from work carried on in uncomfortable conditions. At length it occurred to some bright spirit that the red panes of glass might be at fault, and it was decided to try what the effect of green panes would be. From that day a sudden peace fell upon the whole workshop that had never been known before. Bickering and fighting ended as if by enchantment, and voice of man or woman was never heard raised above a whisper.

GERMAN GIRL'S EDUCATION. As Soon as She is Confirmed She Begins Preparation for Her Marriage.

An important part in a girl's education in Germany is her instruction in domestic science, writes Charlotte Bird in the July Ladies' Home Journal. She is taught how to knit and darn stockings, and how to repair towels and bed and table linen skillfully. She crochets lace and other things, and makes all kinds of cross-stitch work. Most German girls of the upper classes have some musical education. As a rule, they play better on the piano than they sing. After the girl has finished her school course she goes to a boarding house of the better class to learn how to cook and keep house, and to acquire the ways of refined society outside of her own home. Here she remains for several months and watches the process of the cooking and other work, often lending a hand herself. It will be seen that her education presupposes that she will marry some time in her life, and it is in a measure a preparation for that event. Consequently, when she has been confirmed she begins to prepare her trousseau. She crochets lace, makes table covers, works long tidies in cross-stitch, and by degrees collects a large supply of towels and bed and table linen. Everything that is available is put away in the chest holding her treasures.

Build Our Own Warships. The Nautical Gazette states that it was always a matter for surprise that the Brazilian government, for whom the New Orleans and Albany were built, should have been so anxious to get rid of these seemingly perfect vessels. The mystery now is explained, and the fact that the metacentric height was a negative quantity was probably known by the builders and former owners and carefully concealed from us. They cannot be cut in two and lengthened, as they are even now too narrow for their length. The moral of the story is that we must build our own war vessels.

The Lazy Little Mexican Bee. The bee of Mexico does not "improve each shining hour." As there is very little cold weather there no necessity exists for laying in winter stores of honey and the bee is therefore as lazy as a cockroach.

CAUSE AND EFFECT.

Why All the People on an Incoming Steamer Were Shaking Their Handkerchiefs.

It was a blistering hot morning. The white sand reflected the sun's rays like a glass, says the New York Commercial Advertiser. What little breeze there was stirring only served to whip up the sand and fill one's lungs with the parching dust. The surf broke on the ocean side of Sandy Hook with a monotonous roll. Even the sea looked hot. I entered the ship news tower and slowly climbed the five flights of stairs to the observer's room at the top. There are no windows in the tower below the upper floor and care was necessary, not only owing to the darkness, but because of the danger of fracturing one's skull against the iron braces which ran diagonally from floor to ceiling at each landing, crossing each other at about the height of the average man.

In the signalman's room it was several degrees cooler than at the level of the sea. The solitary watcher was looking seaward at the steamship City of Rome, which was passing up the channel, bound in. From her mainmast flew her signal flags. Only a few persons appeared on her decks. Then, as we looked at the ship as she slipped by us, her port rails became lined with passengers. A long line of moving white appeared from end to end. It had the appearance of the foam on the crest of a breaker.

"What's the matter with her?" asked the signalman, poking his telescope through one of the slides in the side of the tower. "They are shaking handkerchiefs at something ashore here," he added, after a few moments' inspection of the ship.

We looked down at the shore, 150 feet below us. On the ridge of sand, standing on a barrel, was a boy. He was waving his coat at the liner.

KINDNESS TO DRUMMERS. They Are Told at an Iowa Railway Station of the Town's Hotel Capacity.

The average traveling man regards Grinnell, Ia., as the most desirable territory on earth through which to carry a grip and sell his wares. Citizens generally have a soft spot in their hearts for the genus drummer and do all they can to make his roaming life as pleasant as possible. The authorities of many of the towns are also interested in the comfort of their good-natured visitors, and in some of them laws have been provided to the end that the knights of the road may be protected against the disappointments so often met in a migratory existence. One law that is particularly appreciated by travelers is an ordinance, already in operation in several cities and about to be tried in others. It provides that the owners of the hotels in each town shall send to meet every incoming train licensed runners, whose duty it is to announce exactly what accommodations each hotel has at the time. These runners are uniformed and are supposed to be of sturdy lung power, and as soon as the train comes to a stop they cry out: "No room at the Jones," "Three rooms left at the Smith house," "Nothing but the bridal chambers vacant at the Waldorf," "Cots in the hall at the Little Auditorium," or some kindred announcement. Thus, if there are no sleeping accommodations left for the weary drummer he simply steps back onto the train and goes to the next town that has an unoccupied bed, saving himself from the particular sort of enterprise that is abhorrent to all traveling men and what is technically known as "carrying the banner."

HAIR FOR VIOLIN BOWS. Where It Comes From and the Different Kinds That Are More Commonly Used.

The horse hair used in making viola and other similar bows is imported from Germany; a considerable part of the hair thus imported, however, coming originally from Russia. Horse hair for these purposes is white and black; the black is the heavier and stronger, and this is used for making bows for bass viola, because it bites the big strings better. In preparing the hair for use in bowmaking, the white hair used for violin bows, is bleached to bring it to its final whiteness, says the New York Sun.

The standard violin bow is 29 inches in length; longer bows are made to order. Shorter bows are used by young persons; but the bow commonly seen in the hands of a violin player is 29 inches long. Horse hair for violin bows is imported in various lengths, but mostly in lengths of 36 inches. Hair sufficient for one bow is put together in what is called a bank; the banks are tied up in bundles of a dozen banks; these are bundled in grosses, and the gross bundles are put together in great grosses, in which shape the hair is imported.

There are grades and qualities of the horse hair, but the best is not very costly. A bank of the best white hair can be bought for 20 cents; it might cost 30 cents more to have it put into the bow. To repair a bass viol bow costs more, the bulk of hair required being greater.

Held a Copyright on the Bible. In the high court of chancery of England the universities of Oxford and Cambridge recently obtained an injunction forbidding Rev. Francis Marshall and other defendants from reprinting extracts from the revised edition of the New Testament, of which the universities own the copyright. The effect of this decision is to prevent English clergymen from printing even sermons which contain extracts from the New Testament in the revised edition. Of the 2,500 changes in the revised edition it is said that all but 20 were familiar to Biblical students before the revised edition was published.

NAME RECALLS TRAGEDY.

Stream in Colorado Christened by Spaniards the River of Lost Souls.

When Spain owned all Mexico and Florida, as the vast region of the Mississippi valley was called long before the United States had an existence as a separate government, the commanding officer at Santa Fe received an order to open communication with the country of Florida. For this purpose an infantry regiment was selected. It left Santa Fe rather late in the season and wintered at a point on the old trail now known as Trinidad. In the spring the colonel, leaving all camp followers behind him, both men and women, marched down the stream, known to the Mexicans as the River of Purgatoire, but to the Americans in Colorado, through which the river flows, as the "Picketwire," which flows for many miles through magnificent canyons. Not one of the regiment returned or was ever heard of. When all hope had departed from the wives, children and friends left behind at Trinidad, information was sent to Santa Fe and a mail was sent up through the land. The priests and people then called this stream "El Rio de las Animas Perdidas (the river of lost souls)." Years after, when the Spanish power was weakened and French trappers came into the country under the auspices of the fur companies, they adopted a more concise name; they called the river "Le Purgatoire." Then came the great American bullwhacker. Utterly unable to twist his tongue into any such Frenchified expressions, he called the stream with the sad story "Picketwire," and by that name it is known to all frontiersmen, trappers and settlers along its banks.

SPANISH BLOOD IN IRELAND. The Combination Makes Women of Great Beauty and Perfect Form.

When the Spanish armada was wrecked off the coasts of Clare and Galway counties many survivors of the disaster who reached the shores were kindly cared for by the Irish people, and considerable numbers of these unfortunates remained in the families of their generous-hearted rescuers, says the American Quarterly Review. Spanish Point, on the coast of Clare, reminds of the disaster to the great Spanish fleet.

In the counties of Clare and Galway there is to be found at the present day a people differing essentially from any of the distinctive races existing on Irish soil. This people are descendants of the Spanish officers and soldiers who had been cast ashore during the fearful storm which destroyed the Spanish fleet.

The race marks of this people are well defined. Crossed as it has been with the Milesian stock, its Spanish features offer a most interesting study, for they remain prominent. The men are tall, muscular, dark-featured, with black eyes and black hair. The women have decided Spanish traits in their physique; they are usually tall; brunettes in some cases and fair in others; with large, expressive black eyes and an abundance of black hair. Their beauty reminds of the women of the Basque provinces, while among them are to be found the perfection of the female form in all Ireland.

JUST A MERE BOY. But for His Electric Gun \$300,000 Has Been Offered by the British Government.

It is generally supposed that in inventive ingenuity the Yankee boy leads the world, and we always point with pride to our Ben Franklin, Eli Whitney, and Tom Edison, but an English lad, not yet of age, with an invention for which he has already refused more than a quarter of a million dollars, has made a pretty fair start in the direction of fame.

This noiseless and smokeless electric gun invented by Mr. Newman, a young apprentice at Whitehead's torpedo factory, exists at present only in the tiny model weighing seven pounds. With this small weapon, however, the inventor has made very satisfactory experiments, shattering a target at a distance of a mile and also at five miles' range. The gun has a very high muzzle velocity. It is said that the inventor has refused an offer of £75,000 from the admiralty for his invention. Meanwhile he is carefully guarding his secret while he constructs a model weighing 100 weight. This he hopes to try probably in July. Mr. Newman is the son of a Portland grocer. His genius has developed early, for he is still in his twentieth year.

Insures All Its Employees. The Montreal Street Railway company has at its own cost insured all its employees against accident or total disablement to the extent of \$1,000. A substantial increase of wages has been granted to all motormen and conductors who have been in the service of the company for two years, while free uniforms will be supplied to those of five years' standing. These concessions, which have been granted by the company of its own volition, will mean the payment of about \$35,000 extra per annum to the men.

Stopping a Fly Wheel. According to a foreign exchange recent experiments carried out at the machine works of Offenbach show that with the proper appliances it is possible to stop even a large fly wheel within a fraction of a second. By means of two brakes affixed to the fly wheel of 150 horse-power, making 80 revolutions per minute, the "whole of the machinery was brought to a standstill in less than a second after the fly wheel had accomplished one-quarter of a revolution."

GOT WRONG WOMAN.

Case of a Husband Who Did Not Know His Own Wife.

Two Women of the Same Name and Closely Resembling Each Other Got Mixed at the Barge Office.

A comedy of errors in one act was played at the barge office at New York the other day, and for a time it looked as though the comedy would turn into something more serious.

Two women named Maria Lewandowska arrived in this country early in the week from Hungary. One came on the steamer H. H. Meier and the other on the Barbarossa. Both had one child five years old. They looked alike, and, though neither knew the other, the rest of the immigrants took them to be sisters.

The woman who arrived on the Meier was going to her husband in Brooklyn and the one who reached here on the Barbarossa was bound for Baltimore to meet her husband.

On the morning in question Herman Lewandowska, from Brooklyn, arrived at the barge office looking for his wife. He showed his pass from the steamship office and the pier went to the peg and shouted for Maria Lewandowska. A few minutes later he appeared in the front office with the woman and her child who were bound for Baltimore. She was promptly turned over to Herman. The man eyed her for a moment, spoke to her in his native language, and, taking her by the arm, started for the door. On the way he embraced her several times.

Something about the way in which Lewandowska greeted the woman aroused the suspicions of the clerk. Calling the man, he asked:

"That's your wife, isn't it?"

"Why, yes, I guess so," he answered. "She don't look just the same, but she must be."

In answer to questions the woman said that her husband did not look natural, but she was sure no mistake had been made.

The clerk did not know that there were two Maria Lewandowskas in the pen, but he ordered the name called a second time. After much calling Maria No. 2 made her appearance.

"That's she! That's she!" shouted Lewandowska, when his wife was led into the room. There was no mistake this time, and the two were soon on the way to Brooklyn. Maria No. 1 wept for joy when she discovered that she had been saved from the wrong husband. She was sent to Baltimore.

IS AT LAST BROKEN. Miss Nathalie Schenk's Chain Has Raised Over \$25,000 for Red Cross.

The ten-cent endless chain is broken. The other day was the first day since May 18, 1894, that Miss Nathalie Schenk, of Babylon, L. I., has not received from one to over 1,200 letters, each inclosing ten cents to buy ice for sick and wounded soldiers. Miss Schenk wrote four letters to friends asking them to send ten cents to the fund and to write to four others to do likewise. This was the beginning of the chain.

After it had been growing for two months, and had resulted in the receipt by Miss Schenk of over 10,000 letters, efforts were made to break it, but it was impossible. Every cent received, over \$25,000, has been turned over to the Red Cross society for its ice plant auxiliary. All the expenses have been paid by selling the addresses of the letter writers to publication houses.

COSTLY FUR COAT. The Esquilloe Form of Pretty Mrs. Mackay to Be Snuggled in a Wrap Costing \$7,500.

Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay has just ordered a sable and seal skin coat for \$7,500. The seal skins in the garment will cost \$2,000. The sables, which are from a stock laid aside for the Russian royalty, are worth \$5,500. Twenty-four of these skins will be used. The average value of each is \$250. The body of the cloak will be of Alaskan seal. Sable skins eight inches wide will trim the entire edge. With the cloak is being made a sable tippet which will contain ten skins. The ends of the tippet will be trimmed with sable claws and tails. The linings will be of heavy corded silk.

Mrs. Mackay was Miss Katherine Duer before she became Mackay—the "beautiful Katherine Duer" was her sobriquet. The family traces itself back to Lady Kitty Duer, the famous colonial wit and beauty. Miss Katherine seemed to have inherited both the beauty and the wit of her ancestor.

Royal Birthday Evolutions. A novel and appropriate method of celebrating the queen's birthday, says the London Mail, was carried out by artillery volunteers at Scarborough. Having fired a feu de joie, they had a torchlight procession, which was concluded by the men so arranging themselves at a word of command as to form the words, "Queen, 80."

The Passenger Was to Blame. A suit for damages against the Scranton Traction company has led to a decision by the supreme court of Philadelphia that if a passenger stands on the platform of a trolley car when there is a seat inside available for him, and gets hurt, he cannot collect damages, because he will have himself to blame.

British Coal Miners. The number of persons employed in the British collieries is over 385,000.

A MILLION PRIESTS.

It Is Said That One-tenth of the Siamese Are Dedicated to Sacerdotalism.

According to a lecture on Siam delivered recently in London by John Bartlett, that Asiatic country has more than its share of priests. The population of Siam, he said, amounted to about 6,000,000, and a curious feature was the large preponderance of Chinese, more especially in Bangkok. The Chinese practically controlled all the trade and commerce of the place. There were hardly any Siamese merchants. One million of the people were in the priesthood. He had traveled up river through the main territory of Siam for a distance of 350 miles, and during the journey it had been absolutely impossible to get out of sight of a temple. In each temple there were from 10 to 300 priests, supported entirely by the people. Of the 1,000,000 priests only 300,000 were actively engaged. The remaining 700,000 were passing through the priesthood. Siam was a great stronghold of Buddhism, but the king was very tolerant of other religions.

The Siamese government put but little restriction on trade, and an ordinary foreigner could come and go all over the kingdom without a passport. The greater part of the trade in Bangkok—at least 80 per cent. of it—was brought there by ships flying the British flag. As far as the imports of the country were concerned, there were great prospects of improvement, and the business with Great Britain should be doubled within 25 years. The future of Siam depended above all things upon the attitude and policy of Great Britain.

WOMEN WON'T REST. They Have Lost the Useful Art of Dawdling—A Good Motive for Workers.

The gospel of periodical rest is not preached to women half forcibly enough. One of the most harrowing remarks made at the Denver meeting of club women last year was by an enthusiast who urged that women should not slip back in the summer from the effort they had made during the winter, says the New York Post. It was evident the speaker would take away from this busy modern woman the scant respite she permits herself during a part of the summer. At a recent club meeting in a suburban town a member presented the "Value of System in Work," and gave a model day in which every minute from breakfast to bedtime was filled with active effort.

When she had finished, a woman in the audience arose and pointed out that one important occupation of the day had been omitted. That was "dawdling," and the speaker said while indulging the value of system she must put in an eloquent plea for the incorporation in the working day of every woman of at least a half-hour's absolute rest—not the rest of a fresh occupation, but the rest of complete and entire relaxation, mental and physical. The nervous, active, overzealous American woman of to-day scarcely knows how to rest. "If you have found a day to be idle," says one, "be idle for a day." This is a motto that many women will do well to fasten up on their dressing tables.

SWORE ON A DEAD BIRD. Chairman Refuses to Take an Oath Unless on a Headless Cockatoo.

The various forms of oath-taking, even in this country, are of considerable interest and would certainly form a fascinating chapter in connection with the peculiarities of legal lore, says the New York Telegram. It would not, however, be easy to find an instance in which anything like so queer a medium of attestation was employed as a guillotine black cockatoo. But no less an extraordinary medium than that was what the police of a country district in New South Wales had to provide the other day for a fabled Chinaman, who declined to swear on anything else. Headless fowls were brought, but in vain, and, as the matter was important, even a black swan, a luxury rarely for a Chinese witness, was suggested, only to be immediately refused.

After some time had elapsed and when the representatives of the law seemed quite at their wits' end, a dead cockatoo of the required hue was strangely discovered in a hat of one of the other clerks, who mulcted the anxious officials for \$2.50 for the bird. Then the solemn and peculiar oath was duly administered, on which the difficult witness declared he knew nothing about the case, and sat down smiling!

A Lucky Degradation. A schoolmaster in a village school had been in the habit of purchasing pork from parents of his pupils on the occasion of the killing of the pig. One day a small boy marched up to the master's desk and inquired "if he would like a bit of pork, as they were going to kill their pig." The schoolmaster replied in the affirmative. Several days having elapsed and hearing nothing of the pork the master called the boy up to him and inquired the reason he had not brought it. "Oh, please, sir," the boy replied, "the pig got better."

A Thrifty Dutchman. An Englishman who visited Albany in 1800 objected strongly to the alleged sharp practice of the Dutchmen with whom he came in contact, and related the following as an evidence of the truth of his statements: On crossing the Hudson at Albany, the Dutch ferryman, after I had disembarked from my carriage, asked me for my fare as a foot passenger. "How low?" "Because you got out of the carriage, and you remained in it, I must have been obliged to consider you as part of the load."

IT WILL BEAR FRUIT

Good to Be Felt from the Tuberculosis Congress.

Effort Being Made to Find an Effective Serum to Combat the Disease of Consumption.

Surgeon J. C. Boyd, of the navy, one of the United States delegates to the recent tuberculosis congress in Berlin, has returned to Washington and is preparing a report for the department on the work of congress. Dr. Boyd thinks the results of the congress will be important. The chief question now interesting the profession is the preparation of an effective serum to combat the disease. The most promising work in this connection is that of Dr. Behring, one of the most prominent of the European specialists.

The results obtained by Dr. Behring have attracted the attention of the medical world, and are being pushed as rapidly as is consistent with careful scientific work. The profession sees no reason why the development of a tuberculosis serum should not revolutionize the mortality rate in consumption as much as has the development of the anti-toxin of diphtheria. The development of consumptive sanitariums in Europe is another matter that has attracted much interest among the profession on this side of the Atlantic. It is now assured that the disease in its earlier stages can be checked. With the building up of the patient's general condition he is less liable to a recurrence of the disease after leaving the institution, even if the lung tissue already destroyed cannot be replaced. Even in advanced stages the disease can be so checked that an individual may with care and a good climate live out his allotted span with only a fraction of the lung area possessed by a normal subject.

Preparations are now being made for the establishment of a consumptive ranch in the high and dry region of the southwest for the benefit of the merchant marine. There is a large percent of consumptives in this service, though there is but little trouble with it in the navy, the physical examination there weeding out practically all the suspicious cases before they enter the service. The chief objection to the location as now planned for the marine sanitarium is the long distance inland, making the transportation of invalids difficult and expensive. Good results are expected, however, from the new venture.

GIFTS TO NEGROES. Mr. Huntington, the Wealthy Railroad Magnate, to Establish Reformatory in the South.

Collis P. Huntington, the wealthy railroad magnate, whose benefactions to the cause of negro education in the south have brought to both Hampton and Tuskegee handsome buildings, where the industrial arts are studied on their practical side, has undertaken another philanthropic enterprise in the south as practical as either and perhaps as greatly needed. Within the last fortnight Mr. Huntington has purchased in Hanover county, Va., some little distance above Richmond, a plot of 1,350 acres, on which he will have erected the first reformatory for negro children in Virginia. Save for an institution at Birmingham the entire south is said to be bare of such institutions.

LIFE'S PRACTICAL SIDE. The Girls in Brooklyn Schools to Be Taught Many New Subjects.

Chicken raising, carpentering, milking, electrical engineering, and other useful pursuits may soon be placed in the curriculum studied by the school girls in Brooklyn. If certain members of the local school board have their way, a small farm will be set apart somewhere in the limits of the city within the next year, where all branches of domestic science will be taught them. The great majority graduated are turned out into the world absolutely unskilled for the cares of domestic life, it is held, and the establishment of a big school in the center of some tillable land, where this deficiency can be met, is proposed.

FOUR BABIES AT SIXTEEN. Indiana Woman the Mother of Quadruplets, All of Them Being Girls.

Mrs. James Platt, aged 16 years, of Union Mills, Laporte county, Ind., gave birth to four daughters the other evening. Three have since died, but the fourth will probably live. A careful investigation of medical records and inquiry among medical men fails to bring to light a similar instance, the birth of four females at one time. The mother weighs 110 pounds. The father of the quartette is a laborer.

Possible to Sleep There. In Vienna organ grinders are allowed to play only between midday and sunset.

Department of Commerce. The British government is about to establish a department of commerce.